



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Public Health

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
5555 Ferguson Drive, Room 210-02
Commerce, California 90022

Warning!

High levels of Lead (a poisonous metal) have been found in
an Ayurvedic pill taken to increase fertility

OVER 120 YEARS OF
TRADITIONAL EXCELLENCE
IN AYURVEDIC FORMULATIONS

Caution: To be taken under medical
supervision

Dose: As directed by the Physician

Each Tablet Contains:

Reserpine	35.714 mg
Ring. Shweta	35.714 mg
L. of Shweta	35.714 mg
Achra Shweta	35.714 mg
Shweta metal	107.143 mg

Prepared in extracts of Glycyrrhiza glabra
Bombax malabaricum, Juice of sugarcane
and Piper betle and cow milk.



Pills are brown and have SDL printed on them
(Photo has been enlarged. Pills appear larger than their actual size)

If you are taking these pills, please **STOP IMMEDIATELY**, contact your doctor,
and request a blood test for lead.

Lead poisoning in adults can damage the:

- Nervous system (headaches, irritability, shakiness, possible convulsions, coma & death)
- Digestive system (stomach ache, nausea, vomiting & constipation)
- Blood system (weakness & tiredness)
- Reproductive system (infertility, miscarriage, harm to fetus & sperm damage)
- Kidneys (high blood pressure & possible kidney failure)

Lead can also be found in:

- Other Ayurvedic medicine
- Paint and dust in homes built before 1978 if:
 - the paint is chipping or peeling
 - the home has been recently remodeled
- Dirt
- Make-up made with kohl or surma
- Tableware like ceramics with a lead glaze or porcelain
- Cookpots 'tinned' with a lead-tin mixture
- Brass cooking or serving vessels

For more information, please call the Los Angeles County Public Health
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
1 (800) LA-4-LEAD



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Office of Communications**



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Unusually High Lead Levels Found in an Indian Medication

**Local physicians cautioned to address medical and health supplements
with patients.**

LOS ANGELES – One case of severe lead poisoning in a Los Angeles County Asian Indian adult has prompted the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services to issue a warning to clinicians and providers regarding lead in the Indian Ayurvedic pharmaceutical medication, “Pushpadhanwa.” Two unrelated cases were also recently identified in San Jose, CA. Pushpadhanwa is a generic medication used for hormonal treatments and prescribed in Ayurvedic medicine. Lead ash is one of the primary components of this medication. Pushpadhanwa is a small brown pill and has the imprint “DSL” (Shree Dhootapapeshwar Ltd.).

The individuals obtained the medications in India. Two samples of the medications were analyzed in San Jose by M.A.C.S. Lab, Inc, an American Industrial Hygiene Association accredited laboratory; the lead content for one pill was 73,900 parts per million (PPM) and the other was 78,000 PPM. In addition, the Los Angeles County’s Public Health Laboratory tested a third medication and found it to have a lead content of 12,400 PPM. County health officials say that there are no safe levels of lead in either an adult or a child’s body.

“With the discovery of these three cases, we felt the need to advise clinicians and consumers in case there are others who may be unknowingly affected by types of medications prescribed in Ayurvedic medicine,” said Jonathan Fielding, M.D., Director of Public Health and Health Officer for Los Angeles County.

Lead poisoning in adults can damage:

- Nervous system (irritability, headaches, shakiness, possible convulsions, coma or death)
- Digestive system (stomach ache, nausea, vomiting or constipation)
- Blood system (weakness or tiredness)
- Reproductive system (infertility, sperm damage, miscarriage or fetal harm)
- Renal system (high blood pressure or kidney damage/failure)

Clinicians treating adult Asian Indian patients who present with these symptoms, even if mild, should inquire about the use of Ayurvedic medicines. If the patient is taking Ayurvedic medicine, a blood test screening for heavy metals is advised. Persons taking Ayurvedic medicine for health purposes are strongly advised to speak with their physician. For more information on lead poisoning prevention contact the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1(800) LA-4-LEAD.

Public Health is committed to protecting and improving the health of the nearly 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, Public Health oversees environmental health, disease control and community and family health and comprises more than 3,800 employees with an annual budget exceeding \$600 million.